

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHARTER

CLEAN AIR SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Committee's Official Designation (Title):

Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC)

2. Authority:

Section 109 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) enacted on August 7, 1977 (42 U.S.C. § 7409), specifically directs the EPA Administrator to review the air quality criteria published under section 108 and the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) promulgated under section 109 and to make such revisions in such criteria and standards and promulgate such new standards as may be appropriate no later than every five years. Section 109 also directs the Administrator to establish this committee to review the criteria and standards promulgated, and provide other related scientific and technical advice. This charter renews the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App.2 § 9 (c). CASAC is in the public interest and supports the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) in performing its duties and responsibilities. The charter has been renewed every two years, with the last renewal on August 5, 2005.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities:

As required by CAA section 109(d), the CASAC will:

- a. review the criteria published under section 108 of the Clean Air Act and the national primary and secondary ambient air quality standards and recommend to the Administrator any new national ambient air quality standards and revisions of existing criteria and standards as may be appropriate;
- b. advise the Administrator of areas in which additional knowledge is required to appraise the adequacy and basis of existing, new, or revised national ambient air quality standards;
- c. describe the research efforts necessary to provide the required information;
- d. advise the Administrator on the relative contribution to air pollution concentrations of natural as well as anthropogenic activity; and
- e. advise the Administrator of any adverse public health, welfare, social, economic, or energy effects which may result from various strategies for attainment and maintenance of such national ambient air quality standards.

4. Description of Committees Duties:

The duties of CASAC are solely advisory in nature.

5. Official(s) to Whom the Committee Reports:

The Committee will submit advice and recommendations and report to the EPA Administrator.

6. Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support:

EPA will be responsible for financial and administrative support. Within EPA, this support will be provided by the EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office, Office of the Administrator (AO).

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Work Years:

The estimated annual operating cost of the CASAC is \$525,000 which includes 3.0 work-years of support.

8. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

The CASAC expects to meet approximately eight (8) to ten (10) times a year. Meetings may occur approximately once every six weeks (6) or as needed and approved by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). EPA may pay travel and per diem expenses when determined necessary and appropriate. A full-time or permanent part-time employee of the Agency will be appointed as the DFO. The DFO or a designee will be present at all meetings and each meeting will be conducted in accordance with an agenda approved in advance by the DFO. The DFO is authorized to adjourn any meeting when he or she determines it is in the public interest to do so.

As required by FACA, CASAC will hold open meetings unless the EPA Administrator determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with subsection (c) of section 552b of title 5, United States Code. Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before the committee, or file comments with CASAC.

9. Duration and Termination:

CASAC will be needed on a continuing basis. This charter will be in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress. After this two-year period, the charter may be renewed in accordance with section 14 of FACA (5 U.S.C. App.2 § 14).

10. Member Composition:

CASAC will be composed of seven (7) members. The Administrator will appoint a Chairperson and six members including, as required by CAA section 109(d), at least one member of the National Academy of Sciences, one physician, and one person representing State air pollution control agencies. Members shall be persons who have demonstrated high levels of competence, knowledge, and expertise in the scientific/technical fields relevant to air pollution and air quality issues. Members will generally serve as Special Government Employees (SGE).

11. Subgroups:

EPA, or CASAC with the Agency's approval, may form subcommittees or workgroups for any purpose consistent with this charter. Such subcommittees or workgroups may not work independently of the chartered committee and must report their recommendations and advice to the CASAC for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered committee, nor can they report directly to the EPA.

August 2, 2007
Agency Approval Date

August 3, 2007
Date Filed with Congress